



**NEW ENGLAND
COMMON ASSESSMENT PROGRAM**

**Released Items
2011**

**Grade 11
Writing**

Writing

Persuasive Essay

- 1 A political group has proposed to change the U.S. Constitution so that people cannot vote unless they have a high school diploma. The group thinks that having an education helps people make more informed choices. Do you think this proposal is a good idea? Write a letter to your local newspaper supporting your position.

Before writing, consider

- *your position or opinion*
- *your supporting arguments and/or reasons*
- *any counterargument(s) to your position*

A complete response to the prompt will include

- ☒ a clear purpose/focus
- ☒ coherent organization
- ☒ details/elaboration
- ☒ well-chosen language and a variety of sentence structures
- ☒ control of conventions